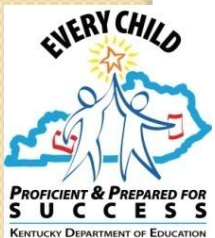


Overview of Kentucky's New Assessment System

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Close Out of 2010-2011

- Last reporting of data for the Interim Assessment Period (i.e., KCCT results)
 - Interim Performance Reports (IPR)
 - No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- Quality Control
 - August- September
- Public Reporting
 - September

The Call for a New Assessment System

- Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), enacted in the 2009 Kentucky General Assembly, requires a new public school assessment program beginning in the 2011-2012 school year.
- The legislation allowed, with approval by the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE), an end-of-course (EOC) assessment program at the high school level.

The New Assessment in Grades 3-8

- The grades 3-8 assessment is a blended model built with criterion-referenced test (CRT) and norm-referenced test (NRT) items.
- The NRT is a purchased test with national norms and the CRT portion is customized for Kentucky.
- The new assessments will be called Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress (K-PREP) tests.

The New Assessment in Grades 9-12

- The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approved an End-of-Course program.
- On-demand writing is required twice and editing and mechanics is required once in high school.

Who Will Provide the K-PREP Assessments?

- NCS Pearson has been awarded the contract to provide all assessments for grades 3-8 and writing on-demand at high school.
- NCS Pearson currently provides large-scale assessment services in more than 25 states and for the U.S. Department of Education.

What K-PREP Assessments Are Required in Grades 3-8?

- Content Areas:
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Social Studies
- Norm-Referenced Test (NRT) portion is the Stanford Achievement Series (Stanford 10).

What Is the K-PREP Test Format?

- The assessment will consist of both multiple-choice (MC) and constructed-response (CR) items.
- The CR items may be 2 point (short-answer) or 4 point (open response) items.
- On-Demand Writing assessments use passage-based and situational prompts.

When and How Are K-PREP Assessments Administered?

- The districts will administer the K-PREP assessments within a five-day testing window during the last 14 days of the district's instructional calendar.
- The assessments will be administered in a paper and pencil format.

What Feedback Will Students and Schools Receive in Grades 3-8?

- Schools will receive both individual student and school-based reports.
- Reports will include national percentile scores from the NRT portion of the test as well as Novice, Apprentice, Proficient and Distinguished student performance levels from a combination of the NRT and CRT items.

What Are the Advantages of EOC Assessments?

- EOC assessments establish an expected common rigor for core courses.
- EOC assessments when purchased from national providers can link performance of Kentucky students to national results.
- EOC assessments allow students to be assessed immediately after completing course work and to receive feedback quickly.

How Are EOC Results Included in Student Grades?

- EOC test results may be used for a percentage of a student's final grade in the course, as outlined in local policy. If that percentage is less than 20%, school districts will submit reports to KDE providing justification.

Who Will Provide the EOC Assessments?

- ACT, Inc. has been awarded the contract to provide EOC assessments for Kentucky.
- The ACT *QualityCore*® program is:
 - syllabus-driven with curriculum and instruction support materials;
 - based on research in high-performing classrooms that focus on the essential standards for college and career readiness; and
 - connected to PLAN and ACT.

What Supports Are Available for EOC?

Educator Resources from ACT

- **Educator's Guide:** Practical information on how all the Educator's Resources are intended to be used. It includes activities to guide instructors in comparing their current instructional materials with the *QualityCore*® materials, which reflect a data-based, proven approach to rigorous instruction.
- **Getting Started with *QualityCore*®:** A self-paced CD that introduces the vision and product component of *QualityCore*® through exploration and suggested group interactions and activities.
- **Course Objectives/Standards:** Enable educators to align school curricula with the essential knowledge and skills students need to be prepared for postsecondary education or workforce training programs.
- **Course Description and Syllabus:** Describes the pedagogical strategies that make a course rigorous, defines course content, and sets forth classroom policies that encourage learning.
- **Rigor and Relevance Template:** A tool used to analyze existing assignments for rigor and relevance.
- **Course Outline:** Suggests a sequence for a year-long course so that all course objectives will be covered.
- **End-of-Course Test Blueprint:** Describes the thinking skills and content that are measured by questions in the end-of-course assessment, so that curricula and interim assessments may be aligned with the essential skills that will be measured.

What Supports Are Available for EOC?

Educator Resources from ACT (continued)

- **Instructional Unit Plans:** Provides the topics and selected course objectives for each unit included in the course.
- **Guidelines for Developing Instructional Units:** Provides a step-by-step process for designing instruction for specific learning goals, student needs, student characteristics, and learning contexts.
- **Formative Item Pool:** Includes 225 multiple-choice and 25 constructed-response formative items, keyed to course objectives and depth of knowledge levels that you may use to develop quizzes and other interim assessment tools.
- **Benchmark Assessments:** Four to six assessments that focus on course specific themes, which are aligned with course objectives, and contain items from the formative item pool.
- **Sample Unit:** Illustrates how the course objectives are connected to instruction and can be delivered in the classroom. Teachers may use as-is, or as a model to assess the quality of existing units, or as a way to develop new instructional units.

EOC Frequently Asked Questions from KDE

- **Visit the KDE website (End-of-Course) page**

What Supports Are Available for EOC?

Implementation Training

The free implementation training will include support for new users to access the QualityCore® online system (i.e., how to log on to the QualityCore® system and maneuvering within it). The ongoing support will provide direction on accessing resources, uploading users to create end-of-course rosters, and access to reports after students have tested.

ACT, Kentucky Department of Education and Education Cooperatives' have partnered to offer the first round of implementation training.

DATES	EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
July 26	Leon Mooneyhan, OVEC
August 22	George Wilson, GREEC 9:00-11:00 and 1:00-3:00 CST
August 23	John Settle, WKEC
August 29	Stan Riggs, KEDC
August 30	Curtis Hall, NKEC 9:00-11:00 and 1:00-3:00
August 31	H.M. Snodgrass, CKEC 9:30-11:30 and 1:00-3:00
September 1	Mark Cleveland, (SSEC) 9:00-11:00 and 1:00-3:00
September 2	Jeff Hawkins, (KVEC) 9:30-11:30 and 1:00-3:00

What EOC Assessments Are Required?

- ACT *QualityCore*®
 - English II
 - Algebra II
 - Biology
 - U.S. History
- These courses are graduation requirements.

What Is the EOC Test Format?

- The EOC tests include both multiple-choice and constructed-response items.
- There are two multiple-choice sections, each with 35-38 items that can be administered separately in two, 45-minute sessions or together in one, 90-minute session.
- The constructed-response session will consist of 1 to 3 questions and can be administered in 45 minutes.

How Do EOC Assessments Align?

- SBI National Alignment: *QualityCore*® provides national alignment to college readiness.
- Common Core Alignment: *QualityCore*® standards match Common Core. A single EOC test will not cover all standards.
- College Readiness Alignment: *QualityCore*® aligns extremely well to Kentucky's College Readiness definition.

When and How Are EOC Assessments Administered?

- Multiple testing windows will be available during the school year.
- The EOC assessments can be administered throughout the year as students earn credit in each course.
- The multiple-choice items may be completed online or on paper.
- The constructed response is paper only.

What Feedback from EOC Assessments Will Students and Schools Receive?

- Online administration of the multiple-choice items provides immediate feedback.
- Paper administration requires 10 days from the time ACT receives answer documents to process and post online reports.
- Electronic student and teacher reports will be available in the secure online system.

How Will the Alternate Assessment Program Change in the New System?

- Expand Attainment Tasks to measure reading, mathematics, science, social studies and writing.
- Continue Transition Attainment Record.
- Eliminate Portfolios.
 - Alternate Assessment requirements will measure Kentucky's content standards.
 - Reading, mathematics and writing only will be linked to the new Kentucky Core Academic Standards.
 - Science and social studies standards remain Core Content for Assessment 4.1 for 2011-2012.

When Will Alternate Assessments Be Administered?

- Attainment Tasks are administered for specifically identified standards over course of the school year.
- Multiple test windows connect instruction to more immediate assessment and allow teachers to manage administration more efficiently.
- In the first year, tests windows are scheduled for February and May 2012. In following years, a third window is anticipated for October.
- Transition Attainment Records completed during the year are submitted in May.

Summary of Kentucky State-Required Assessments for 2011-2012 School Year

GRADE	Reading (KCAS)	Writing (KCAS)	Mathematics (KCAS)	Science (CC 4.1)	Social Studies (CC 4.1)	EPAS
3	CRT/NRT*		CRT/NRT*			
4	CRT/NRT*	Editing/Mechanics*	CRT/NRT*	CRT/NRT*		
5	CRT/NRT*	On-demand Writing*	CRT/NRT*		CRT/NRT*	
6	CRT/NRT*	Editing/Mechanics and On-demand Writing*	CRT/NRT*			
7	CRT/NRT*		CRT/NRT*	CRT/NRT*		
8	CRT/NRT*	On-demand Writing*	CRT/NRT*		CRT/NRT*	EXPLORE
9	End of Course English II ACT QualityCore®		End of Course Algebra II ACT QualityCore®	End of Course Biology ACT QualityCore®	End of Course U.S. History ACT QualityCore®	
10		On-demand Writing*				PLAN (Used to meet required testing of editing/mechanics.)
11		On-demand Writing*				ACT
12						

KCAS=Kentucky Core Academic Standards CC 4.1=Core Content for Assessment, 4.1

EPAS=Educational Planning and Assessment System by ACT, Inc.

* Assessments provided by NCS Pearson.

FIELD TESTING in FALL 2011

On-Demand Writing

- Pearson will field test prompts (passage-based and stand alone) to construct the K-PREP Writing assessment for spring 2012.

Since field testing occurs in the same school year as required testing, the field test items will be administered one grade up.

REQUIRED TEST	FIELD TEST
Grade 5	Grade 6
Grade 6	Grade 7
Grade 8	Grade 9
Grade 10	Grade 11
Grade 11	Grade 12

Alternate Assessment

University of Kentucky will field test new attainment tasks for the alternate assessment.

TEST ACCOMMODATION DISCUSSION

- Several committees and stakeholder groups are discussing revisions to the Inclusion regulation (703 KAR 5:070) which defines testing accommodations.
 - Kentucky is out of alignment with national guidance (i.e., allowing readers on the reading test and extended time for all).
 - Recommended changes include to eliminate readers on the reading test, prohibit prompting/cueing for all students, and remove assistive technology and student-generated glossaries for English learners.
- Regulation revisions will not require change to student IEP for the classroom, but will restrict which classroom practices may be used in testing.



Questions about the new assessment system may be addressed to the Division of Support and Research by e-mail at

dacinfo@education.ky.gov

or by phone at
502-564-4394.